

## FLORIDA

Park Operational Base Summary: The table below shows the annual park operating base for all parks within this state. Park operational base funds are supplemented by as yet undetermined amounts of project funding from regional or servicewide-managed programs, such as cyclic maintenance, the Natural Resources Preservation Program, and the Drug Enforcement Program.

If a park is in more than one state, the park is included in each of the appropriate state tables. The full operating base is shown; no attempt has been made to split the park operating base amount between two or more states.

Congress'l District Park Units	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Uncontrol Changes	FY 2005 Program Changes	FY 2005 Estimate
25 Big Cypress National Preserve	5,272	5,243	0	0	5,243
18 Biscayne NP	3,456	3,434	0	0	3,434
24 Canaveral NS	2,219	2,212	0	140	2,352
07 Castillo de San Marcos NM & Fort Matanzas NM	1,416	1,413	0	0	1,413
13 De Soto Natl Memorial	473	472	0	0	472
20 Dry Tortugas NP	1,286	1,276	0	0	1,276
14,20 Everglades NP	13,860	14,038	0	789	14,827
04 Fort Caroline Natl Memorial & Timucuan Ecol & Historic Preserve	1,860	1,775	0	0	1,775
01 Gulf Islands NS	5,965	5,939	0	0	5,939

FY 2005 uncontrollable funding related to pay and benefits has yet to be distributed at the park level.

This table does not include programs from other appropriations such as General Management Plans, Land Acquisition, Line Item Construction, Federal Lands Highway Program, and Historic Preservation Fund State Grants. Information on the distribution of funds in these programs is outlined on the next page. There are separate sections on General Management Plans and the Trails Management Program.

## **FLORIDA**

### **Canaveral National Seashore, Florida**

#### **\$140,000 and 2.0 FTEs to Provide Protection for Two Areas**

Funding is requested to enhance visitor and resource protection at Eldora State House and Seminole Rest. These historic sites have been rehabilitated and are experiencing growing visitation. Both sites are vulnerable to vandalism and Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) violations due to their remoteness. This request would provide regular patrol and protection services for these sites, enhancing protection of the resources and visitor safety.

### **Everglades National Park, Florida**

#### **\$357,000 and 4.0 FTEs to Correct Deteriorating Infrastructure**

Funding is requested for the establishment of a proactive maintenance program for campgrounds, equipment, water/wastewater treatment plants, and automotive and marine fleets. Aging facilities and increased operational requirements for newly constructed water and wastewater treatment plants have eroded the maintenance budget. Most maintenance activities are directed at operational needs with little staffing and funds available for preventive maintenance and repair activities. Funding would provide for state-licensed operators, water quality monitoring, chemical treatment and equipment calibration for the wastewater treatment plants, as required by plant operating permits. Funding would also provide for preventive maintenance and repairs of campground facilities, 130-vehicles/special-purpose equipment and 65 vessels. This request would improve the condition and safety of facilities and equipment, reduce the maintenance backlog and enhance visitor experience and safety.

#### **\$432,000 and 6.0 FTEs to Increase Protection at Everglades National Park**

Funding is requested to expand the park's visitor and resource protection program through increased protection services, security and investigations. The continued growth and development of south Florida has created an urgent need for additional law enforcement capabilities to combat increasing threats to the park's unique natural and cultural resources. Incidents detected annually include encroachments, hazard waste dumping, poaching, disturbance of archeological sites, thefts, and smuggling. Funding would be used to increase patrol frequency of park areas and enhance officer safety through increased patrol capabilities and adequate communication support. Increased patrols would improve visitor safety and resource protection through the abatement of criminal activity.

## FLORIDA (SER)

(dollars in thousands)

### PROGRAMS NOT INCLUDED IN PARK BASE:

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS (See GMP section for further information)

<u>Park Area</u>	<u>Type of Project</u>
Big Cypress NP	Ongoing Project
Biscayne NP	Ongoing Project
Canaveral NS	Potential New Start
Everglades NP	Ongoing Project
Fort Matanzas Natl Mem	Potential New Start
Gulf Islands NS	Potential New Start
Wekiva W&SR	Potential New Start

SPECIAL STUDIES (See GMP section for further information)

<u>Study Area</u>	<u>Type of Project</u>
Biscayne NP, Stiltsville Study	Ongoing Project
Everglades NP, Exotic Plan	
Management Impact Assessment	Ongoing Project
Fort King	Ongoing Project
Gulf Islands NS Personal Watercraft	
Management	Potential New Start
Low Country Gullah Culture	Ongoing Project
Miami Circle	Potential New Start

LAND ACQUISITION (see attached)

<u>Park Area</u>	<u>Remarks</u>	<u>Funds</u>
Big Cypress National Preserve	135,960 acres	\$40,000

CONSTRUCTION: LINE ITEM CONSTRUCTION (see attached)

<u>Park Area</u>	<u>Type of Project</u>	<u>Funds</u>
Big Cypress Natl Preserve	Rehab off-road vehicle trails	\$569
Everglades NP	Modify Water Delivery System	\$8,077

PROPOSED FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY PROGRAM (subject to change pending program reauthorization)

None

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND: STATE GRANTS

State apportionment: \$718

STATE CONSERVATION GRANTS

Proposed state apportionment: \$3,975

**National Park Service  
PROJECT DATA SHEET**

<b>Project Score/Ranking:</b>	<b>530</b>
<b>Planned Funding FY:</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Funding Source:</b>	<b>Line Item Construction</b>

**Project Identification**

<b>Project Title:</b> <b>Rehabilitate Off-Road Vehicle Trails</b>		
<b>Project No:</b> <b>059677</b>	<b>Unit/Facility Name:</b> <b>Big Cypress National Preserve</b>	
<b>Region:</b> <b>Southeast</b>	<b>Congressional District:</b> <b>14</b>	<b>State:</b> <b>FL</b>

**Project Justification**

**Project Description:** Funds are requested for FY2005 to complete this project which will provide a designated, stable and sustainable trail system and fifteen designated access points for off-road vehicle (ORV) use within Big Cypress National Preserve. It will include 400 miles of designated, stabilized trails for ORV use. It will require restoration of approximately 22,000 miles of undesignated trails. It will also require the establishment of fifteen designated access points to enter the trail system. These access points will range in size from an area that will accommodate from ten up to 40 truck/trailer combinations. Trail hardening will range from a limited application of limestone rock over existing limestone cap rock to applications of geotextile fabric with a limestone rock cover through areas where existing soil is over one foot in depth. Trails will range from ten to twelve feet wide and all trail beds will NOT extend above existing grade in order to maintain natural hydrological flow. Because of the sensitive circumstances surrounding the establishment of a designated trail system, the park is leasing specialized equipment and hiring temporary staff to assist the maintenance roads and trail crew in this restoration effort. This will ensure no further deterioration of the resource during this trail designation and restoration project.

**Project Need/Benefit:** Off-Road Vehicle use in the preserve is resulting in significant resource damage. The damage consists of disturbed hydrological (sheet water) flow and potential loss of critical habitat for 70 plants and 34 animals recognized as threatened or endangered species. The uncontrolled use of ORVs has resulted in scarring of the natural areas of the preserve and creates potential danger for wildlife throughout. Litigation has accelerated the need for the establishment of a designated trail system in the preserve. This project will focus use in specific units and on designated trails and direct use away from those areas that are most sensitive.

**Ranking Categories:** Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0 % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	50 % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance
20 % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	30 % Compliance & Other Deferred Maintenance
0 % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	0 % Other Capital Improvement
0 % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	

<b>Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required:</b> YES: NO:	<b>Total Project Score:</b> 530
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**Project Costs and Status**

<b>Project Cost Estimate:</b>			<b>Project Funding History:</b>		
	<b>\$'s</b>	<b>%</b>			
Deferred Maintenance Work :	\$ 4,440,800	80	Appropriated to Date:	\$ 4,982,000	
Capital Improvement Work:	\$ 1,110,200	20	Requested in FY 2005 Budget:	\$ 569,000	
Total Project Estimate:	\$ 5,551,000	100	Planned Funding:	\$ 0	
<b>Class of Estimate:</b>	<b>B</b>		Future Funding to		
<b>Estimate Good Until:</b>	<b>09/30/05</b>		<b>Complete Project:</b>	\$ 0	
			<b>Project Total:</b>	\$ 5,551,000	
<b>Dates:</b>	<b>Sch'd</b>		<b>Project Data Sheet</b>	<b>Unchanged Since</b>	
(qtr/yy)				<b>Departmental</b>	
<b>Construction Start/Award</b>	<b>1 / 2005</b>		<b>Prepared/Last Updated:</b> <b>12/5/03</b>	<b>Approval:</b>	
<b>Project Complete:</b>	<b>4 / 2005</b>			<b>YES: NO: x</b>	

**National Park Service  
PROJECT DATA SHEET**

<b>Project Score/Ranking:</b>	680
<b>Funding FY:</b>	2005
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Line Item Construction

**Project Identification**

<b>Project Title:</b> Modify Water Delivery System		
<b>Project No:</b> 060109	<b>Unit/Facility Name:</b> Everglades National Park	
<b>Region:</b> Southeast	<b>Congressional District:</b> 19,20	<b>State:</b> Florida

**Project Justification**

**Project Description:** This project involves construction of modifications to the Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF) water management system and related operational changes to provide improved water deliveries to Everglades National Park. The project includes water control structures to restore more natural hydrologic conditions within Everglades National Park and a flood mitigation system. Planned features will be implemented by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) with the concurrence of the National Park Service and the non-Federal sponsor, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Consistent with the cost-sharing provisions of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 (1989 Act), project construction will be Federally funded, and in accordance with the Corps's General Design Memorandum for Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park, the Federal Government will provide 75% of operating and maintenance costs, with the South Florida Water Management District assuming responsibility for the remaining 25%. Quarterly meetings of the NPS, the Corps, the FWS, and the SFWMD provide additional project coordination. The authorized project consists of structural features with the intended purpose of restoring conveyance between water conservation areas north of Everglades National Park and the Shark River Slough within the park. The original authorization also allowed for the construction of flood mitigation features for the 8.5 Square Mile Area (a residential area adjacent to the park expansion boundary in East Everglades). Based on recent decisions and additional information, the Modified Water Deliveries Project design is being altered. The project consists of four components: Conveyance, 8.5 Square Mile Area, Tamiami Trail, and Seepage Control.

1. The conveyance portion of the project consists of: (a) water control structures in the L-67 A/C canal and levee to discharge water from Water Conservation Area 3A (WCA3A) and Water Conservation Area 3B (WCA3B); (b) water control structures in the L-29 canal to discharge water from WCA3B into Northeast Shark River Slough and; (c) removal of the existing levee and canal that runs along part of the park's original eastern boundary and cuts across the center of Shark River Slough (L-67 extension canal and levee). Structures contained in the original design document for the project included gated culverts, headwall water control structures, and weir-type spillways; discharge, intake, and bypass canals; containment, interceptor, and tie-back levees. These project features are currently being reevaluated in the context of the structural and operational features identified as part of the Central and South Florida Comprehensive Review Study (Restudy). A revised Project Management Plan was approved.

2. The current authorized flood mitigation components for the 8.5 Square Mile Area include the construction of an exterior levee, seepage canal and interior berm extending along the northern and western perimeters of the area. Two pump stations were also specified to transfer the seepage water from this system to Northeast Shark River Slough. Based on a recent hydrologic and economic analysis, the local sponsor (SFWMD) will choose a Locally Preferred Option (LPO) to the authorized mitigation plan. The COE is currently in the process of preparing a planning decision document to be integrated with a Supplemental EIS for the LPO recommended by the SFWMD.

3. The Tamiami Trail, under the authorized project, would be raised over only a short distance to accommodate the flows based on the original design of the conveyance features discussed above. Based on improved hydrological information, it is now anticipated that up to a 10-mile length of the road would need to be raised 2 feet to accommodate the anticipated increased volumes of water. The COE is preparing a Post Authorization Change Report and associated NEPA for Tamiami Trail.

4. Project features associated with items (1)-(3) have the potential to increase seepage losses from the restored wetland areas into both the L-30 and L-31N canals. Seepage control structures were incorporated in the original design as part of the design of pump stations S-356 and S-357. Design features will be identified to control seepage from both Water Conservation Area 3B and from Northeast Shark Slough.

## Fiscal Year 2005 National Park Service Federal Land Acquisition Program

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Program or Park Area: **Big Cypress National Preserve**

National Park Service Land Acquisition Priority (FY 2005): Priority No. 1

Location: South Florida

State/County/Congressional District: State of Florida/Collier, Dade, and Monroe Counties/Congressional Districts No. 14 and 20.

Land Acquisition Limitation Amount Remaining: \$18,232,000

Cost Detail: No estimated annual operating costs are associated with this acquisition

Date	Acres	Total Amount (\$000)
FY 2005 Request	About 135,960	<b>\$40,000</b>
Future Funding Need	Unknown	TBD

Description: The Collier Family is the primary holder of the mineral rights under the National Preserve. The Colliers own all or a portion of the oil and gas rights within 79 percent of the sections within Collier County. The Colliers' ownership of these mineral rights predates the establishment of the National Preserve and their rights to develop those rights were expressly grandfathered by Congress when the National Preserve was established. It is estimated that there are approximately 40 million barrels of conventionally recoverable oil under Big Cypress.

Natural/Cultural/Resources Associated with Proposal: Restoration of the Everglades ecosystem is necessary to limit habitat destruction and to restore natural water flow patterns that are critical to the long-term viability of ecosystem resources. The State of Florida has taken the position that oil development in Big Cypress National Preserve would not be consistent with its coastal management plan. Numerous other parties oppose oil development in this protected area as inconsistent with ongoing State and Federal efforts to restore the Everglades ecosystem.

Threat: The Collier Resources Company has filed 26 plans of operation for exploration and production of the reserves within the National Preserve. Although the National Park Service may impose conditions on the development of oil and gas in the National Preserve, refusal to permit oil and gas exploration and production would subject the United States to significant takings claims.

Need: This request signals the Department's continued commitment to prevent new exploration or oil production in the Big Cypress Preserve, which is part of the of the larger Everglades ecosystem. Although the agreement between the Department and the Collier family for the acquisition of the mineral rights has expired, the Department is prepared to continue to work with the family using the Department's new guidelines and procedure for appraisals for land acquisition and exchanges.

**THIS REQUEST IS PART OF THE EVERGLADES RESTORATION EFFORT.**